

Dear River Bank parents and carers

It is getting darker, Christmas is rushing towards us and we continue to be really busy with events and activities at school. We hope this newsletter helps to celebrate all of our wonderful children and the amazing work they have done so far this term. Your children may have told you about our recent 'lockdown' practices. Schools must have lockdown procedures in place should it be necessary that we have to protect the members of our school from any possible threat. A lockdown could happen if an intruder entered the school site, if there was civil disturbance near the school or if there was any other perceived threat that meant we wanted to keep the children safe in their classrooms. Children know that in the event of a lockdown – we shut the blinds, turn off the lights and lock the doors. We have had two lockdown drills now and the pupils have been excellent. If we have to lockdown for any genuine purposes we will contact parents so that they:

- are reassured that the school understands their concern for their child's welfare, and that it is doing everything possible to ensure his/her safety
- do not contact the school. Calling the school could tie up telephone lines that are needed for contacting emergency providers
- do not come to the school. They could interfere with emergency provider's access to the school and may even put themselves and others in danger
- wait for the school to contact them about when it is safe for them to come and collect their children, and where this will be from.

A letter to parents will be sent home following any serious incident to inform parents of context of lockdown and to encourage parents to reinforce with their children the importance of following procedures in these very rare circumstances.

Best wishes, David Sansom

Children in Need

Thank you for your very generous donations for Children in Need we raised £569.85 for this charity.

Sporting events

A number of our pupil's have represented the school at sporting events already this year. Their behaviour, attitude and sportsmanship has been a credit to the school and their parents. Well done to the following:

Football matches - Eshan, Umair, Kuba, Alan, Musab, Jayden, Muhammad J, Rayaan. Rico.

Dodgeball - Hasnain, Daria, Haseenah, Zain, Tanisha, Ayaana, Kevin, Ibrahim

Basketball - Gabriela, Danial, Saim, Jayden, Mikayeel, Rico, Moataz, Mahiba,

Netball - Amiyah, Amyrah, Lana, Gabriella, Amna, Jasleen.

Pantomime

We are looking forward to our pantomime visit to see Peter Pan at The Grove theatre in Dunstable.

An experience we hope the children will remember for a long time. If you would like your child to go and have not yet booked and paid for your child's place, please call into the school office as soon as possible.

Family worker team

As the school continues to grow, new members of staff join our fantastic team and we are delighted to be welcoming another Family Worker, Attia Riaz. Attia joins us with vast knowledge and experience and will be working alongside Neghat Ahmed.



Follow us on Facebook - River Bank Primary



Follow us on Twitter @riverbankluton

Starting school September 2020

If your child was born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 it is time to apply for a school place. for September 2020. Applications should be made to Luton Borough Council by 15th January 2020., applications can be made online at www.luton.gov.uk/admissions

Prefects

We are pleased to welcome a number of our year six pupils on to our prefect team. They all have specific responsibilities in school and are making a huge difference to how we operate on a day to day basis. Thank you and well done to: Musab, Jayden, Rayyan, Falak, Ammaar, Inayah, Habiba, Tobias, Khadija A, Jasmin, Amna, Eshan, Mymoona, Sabrin, Maisha, Mikayel, Lana, Qudsia, Nusaybah and Amyrah.

School trips

This term our year groups have attended trips and workshops to enhance their learning of subjects they are being taught. Again, our pupil's behaviour and attitude was a credit to us all and we would like to share a message received from one of the venues we attended. *'Thank you for bringing your pupils to St Albans Cathedral earlier this week, we hope you enjoyed your visit. I can honestly say that all the staff and volunteers were thrilled by how polite, calm, inquisitive and well-mannered your pupils were – an absolute delight to work with!!'*

EYFS

This half term reception have enjoyed a visit to Wardown Park. The children were so excited exploring the changes that happen in autumn, looking at the leaves and even spotting a squirrel burying its food! Reception also had a visit from something rather scary – a dinosaur! The classes attended a dinosaur workshop where the children learnt about different types of dinosaurs and even got to hold a fossil.

Year 3

On the 19th of November prehistory came to life for year 3 children (some even looked the part wearing prehistoric costumes) as they took part in the Stone Age to Iron Age workshop. This fantastic day involved lots of interactive activities, opportunities to handle real artefacts from ages ago, a quiz to test and consolidate children's knowledge and lots more. Both children and teachers had a brilliant time.

Year 4

Year 4 had a lovely time at St Albans Cathedral. The children enjoyed exploring the cathedral, dressing up and learning the story of Alban. A highlight for many was the Anglo Saxon workshop where we had the opportunity to make food they may have eaten during that period. A fun day was had by all and we cannot wait until our next school trip!

Year 6

This term Year 6 have been studying World War Two. We visited the Luton Hoo Walled Gardens to learn about the land army and how they coped during the war. We were given a tour of the property, saw WW2 buildings and planted our own beans. We then learnt all about the evacuees and what would have happened to them when they were evacuated to the countryside. We thoroughly enjoyed our time there playing jacks, tasting different herbs and dressing up as evacuees for the day.

Dates for your Diary

| | |
|---|--|
| Wednesday 4 th December | Wren class assembly 09:35 – 10:00 |
| Wednesday 18 th December | Lark class assembly 09:35 – 10:00 |
| Monday 23 rd – 2 nd January | Christmas Holiday |
| Friday 3 rd January | Training day – school closed to pupils |
| Monday 6th January | Spring term – children return to school |
| Wednesday 15 th January | Badger class assembly 09:35 – 10:00 |
| Wednesday 29 th January | Otter class assembly 09:35 – 10:00 |
| Wednesday 13 th February | Hare class assembly 09:35 – 10:00 |
| Monday 17 th – 21 st February | Half term holiday |

Value of the month DETERMINATION